

Message Text

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ACTION AID-31

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 LAB-04 EB-07 COME-00 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 NEA-10 OIC-02 SIL-01 /072 W

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R 100915Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7406

UNCLAS MANILA 12753

DEPT PASS AID, ATTN DALE GOOD, O/LAB

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, RP

SUBJ: PROPOSED ASIAN REGIONAL LABOR/MANPOWER CONFERENCE, MANILA 1976

WITH RESPECT GOOD TO NIBLOCK LETTER OF JULY 11, 1975, MISSION BELIEVES PROPOSED REGIONAL SEMINAR COULD PROVE BE TIMELY AND PRODUCTIVE UNDERTAKING. MANPOWER AND EMPLOYMENT ASPECTS OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IS TOPIC WHICH HAS BEEN RECEIVING CLOSE ATTENTION IN NUMBER DEVELOPING ASIAN COUNTRIES INCLUDING PHILIPPINES.

2. LABATT DISCUSSED MATTER WITH LABOR SECRETARY BLAS OPLE ON SEPTEMBER 10. OPLE APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE OF IDEA ONE TO TWO-WEEK SEMINAR IN FEBRUARY OR MARCH 1976. HE AGREED IT COULD INDEED SERVE AS USEFUL PRELUDE TO ASIAN LABOR MINISTERS' CONFERENCE IN TEHRAN, WHICH HE POINTED OUT HAS NOW BEEN MOVED UP TO SEPTEMBER 1976 AT REQUEST IRANIAN HOSTS. OPLE FORESAW NO DIFFICULTY PROVIDING SUITABLE CONFERENCE SITE, BUT STATED THEY WOULD WANT MORE SPECIFIC INFORMATION REGARDING PHILIPPINE OBLIGATIONS WITH RESPECT PHRASE "AND RELATED SERVICES FOR THE PARTICIPANTS" (PAR 2, PAGE 2, GOOD LETTER). LABOR SECRETARY INTERESTED LEARNING PROPOSED NUMBER PARTICIPANTS AND ASIAN COUNTRIES INVOLVED. HE ALSO ASKED WHETHER IT WAS OUR INTENTION MAKE SEMINAR TRI-PARTITE (LABOR, MANAGEMENT, AND GOVERNMENT) IN COMPOSITION. THEN, AS AFTERTHOUGHT, HE SPECULATED TOPIC (ESPECIALLY RURAL ASPECT

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MIGHT NOT LEND ITSELF TO INCLUSION LABOR/MANAGEMENT ELEMENTS.

3. OPLE SUGGESTED CONTACT POINT IN DOL BE MRS. CARIDAD DE QUIROZ, ACTING CHIEF, INTERNATIONAL LABOR AFFAIRS, SERVICE. MRS. DE QUIROZ, COINCIDENTALLY, WOULD BE MISSION'S NOMINEE FOR INTERNATIONAL MANPOWER SEMINAR, FALL 1975 (MANILA 12676 AND STATE 201168) SHOULD O/LAB FUNDS BE AVAILABLE. IN THIS CONNECTION, AID/W MAY WISH CONSIDER OBVIOUS ADVANTAGE HAVING PHILIPPINE COORDINATOR OF PROPOSED REGIONAL MANPOWER SEMINAR AVAILABLE FOR CONSULTATION IN WASHINGTON IF PARTICIPATION MRS. DE QUIROZ APPROVED BY O/LAB.

4. NOW THAT BALL IN OUR COURT WITH GOP'S APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE, WE SHOULD FOLLOW UP SOONEST WITH MORE DETAILED INFORMATION, INCLUDING TENTATIVE AGENDA AND ANSWERS SPECIFIC QUESTIONS RAISED BY OPLE. MISSION WOULD LIKE TO SEE AGENDA ITEM INCLUDED WHICH TOUCHES ON NEED FOR COORDINATION BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE SECTOR ON MANPOWER POLICIES. WE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE MORE SPECIFIC GUIDANCE ON WHAT EXPECTED FROM MISSION IN TERMS ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT. PROJECTED \$35,000 PROJECT FUNDING FOR EXPENSES NON-FILIPINO PARTICIPANTS MAY BE STRAINED SHOULD PROPOSED SEMINAR BE TOO LENGTHY. AT WHAT POINT HAD AID/W PLANNED HAVE O/LAB REPRESENTATIVE COME TO MANILA TO ASSIST IN ARRANGEMENTS?

5. THIS MESSAGE COORDINATED WITH USAID MANILA.
SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LABOR UNION OFFICIALS, SEMINARS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MANILA12753
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750313-0259
From: MANILA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750966/aaaacgqf.tel
Line Count: 88
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AID
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: RowellE0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 MAR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31 MAR 2003 by MaustMC>; APPROVED <29 JAN 2004 by RowellE0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROPOSED ASIAN REGIONAL LABOR/MANPOWER CONFERENCE, MANILA 1976 WITH RESPECT GOOD TO NIBLOCK LETTER OF JULY 11, 1975
TAGS: ELAB, RP, (OPLE, BLAS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006